

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

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March 22, 2004 Contact: Michael Winder FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (605) 773-3478

Inmate Suspected in Penitentiary Assault

(Pierre) – A state prison inmate is suspected of assaulting a contractual food service worker at the Jameson Annex of the South Dakota State Penitentiary last week.

Gregory Stephens, age 28, was placed in disciplinary segregation on March 21st pursuant to the initial investigation into the incident by the Division of Criminal Investigation and Penitentiary staff.

The food service worker was found unconscious in the Jameson dining room staff office at approximately 8:48 a.m. March 19th. The worker was transported by ambulance to a Sioux Falls hospital, where he remains hospitalized. His name is not being released.

Stephens is currently serving an 8-year sentence for Grand Theft and concurrent sentences for Possession of a Controlled Substance, 4th Degree Burglary, Possession of a Vehicle with an Altered Serial Number and Mishandling Anhydrous Ammonia, all out of Turner County.